

CHRISTMAS IN THE CAPITAL

*** CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING CONTEST ***

Carson City Downtown Redevelopment Authority started a new Christmas Tree decorating contest this year. The contest is free and trees are provided by the Redevelopment Authority. The trees are located on the Legislative Mall in front of the State Supreme Court building.

First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded. The Recycling Program decided to take a stab at the contest. With the help of the Educator's Closet for materials and the creativity of NDEP's Waste Management staff, we were able to create a beautiful tree decorated completely from discarded materials.



Ann helped remind us that we can celebrate the holidays in fine style while reducing waste and saving resources. If you would like to find out how to make “green” Christmas ornaments, call Ann at 1-800-597-5865 or visit the links below.



Links: [Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection](#)
[Make Stuff. com](#)

Ann & Dave decorate the
Waste Management-
Recycling Program tree.



Some of the decorations on the Waste Management - Recycling Program tree:



With inspiration from the aforementioned links, Ann's artistic side came out as she showed us how to make ornaments out of plastic bottles, old Christmas cards, CDs, toilet paper rolls, and other scraps. Discarded water bottles were used to make a tree-top angel, Santa face, and candle. Greeting cards were cut to size, then linked together and used as garland.



The snowman is made from scrap office paper glued around toilet paper rolls.



Kristi from the Educator's Closet made an ornament using random puzzle pieces.

Although not required in the competition, other contestants used materials on hand to create ornaments for their trees. This gave many of the trees a unique distinction associated with their organization.



The Children's Museum tree was especially creative. Ribbons were made from the brightly colored plastic bags used in home delivery of the Reno Gazette.

Thread spools were used to create imaginative "icicles".

Christmas trees were cut from meat trays, old tennis balls were decorated, and aluminum foil was used as garland.

The creativity of the groups using and reusing discarded items for their ornaments gives special meaning to their effort.



The Boy Scouts used climbing rope and tied various knots.

Carson City Animal Control...



And...



Stand Tall – a local youth group discouraging alcohol consumption by minors.



The Red Hatters – “Red Hatters are women 50 and over who meet on a regular (or sometimes irregular) basis, with fun names and titles, for the purpose of Sisterhood, Friendship, and Fellowship.”



Contest winners will be announced on December 20th. Cash awards of \$100 for 1st place, \$75 for 2nd place, and \$50 for 3rd place will be donated to the winner's favorite charity.

The recycling program will let you know who the winners are after the announcement. Wish Us Luck!

For more inspiration on having a “Greener” holiday season, visit

[Dreaming of a "Green" Christmas](#)